

FALSE PRIDE OF KERENSKY CAUSES FALL

David R. Francis in His Book
On Russia Attributes Rise
of Bolshevism to Keren-
sky and Korniloff.

TWO LEADERS QUARREL

V. N. Loeff Causes Trouble Be-
tween General and Head
of Government by
Treachery.

"Had Kerenky been big enough to place his country's welfare above his own pride," in his break with Gen. Korniloff, and had he sought "some middle ground upon which he and Korniloff might have worked against the Bolsheviki—their common enemies—they might between them have rescued Russia and the world from the curse of Bolshevism," writes former Ambassador David R. Francis in his book, "Russia From the American Embassy, April 1916–November, 1918," (Scribners), according to the St. Louis Star's review.

"I have subsequently learned," the ambassador continues, "that the Kerenky-Korniloff break occurred in the following manner:

"V. N. Loeff, former Procurator of the Holy Synod (who should not be confused with Prince Loeff, former president of the ministry) after several conversations with Kerenky, went to Gen. Korniloff and proposed to him that he and Kerenky combine against the constantly and alarmingly growing power of the Bolsheviki.

"While Loeff did not specifically state to Korniloff that he represented Kerenky, it is nevertheless probable that he allowed him to gain that impression. As a matter of fact, Kerenky had not authorized him to represent him or to make such a proposal. He was acting entirely on his own responsibility. General Korniloff replied that he would enter into such an understanding with Kerenky provided he, Korniloff, were placed at the head of the government.

"Kerenky, amazed at such a sweeping proposal, which came without warning or provocation as far as he was aware, called Korniloff on the long distance telephone at his military headquarters and inquired whether Loeff was his representative and authorized by him to make the proposal he had just made. Korniloff, without even taking the precaution to ask Kerenky to state the proposal made by Loeff, replied in the affirmative.

"Kerenky, his pride wounded and greatly incensed, ordered Loeff placed under arrest and notified General Korniloff he was relieved of his command and should regard himself as under arrest. Korniloff, enraged at this reception of his reply to the proposal which, as he believed, had been sent him by Kerenky, retaliated by issuing a proclamation in which he announced his intention of marching his army against Petrograd and seizing the governmental power."

This action compelled Kerenky to lean on the Bolshevik Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies for support, and led him to arm them.

"In other words," Francis explains, "he found himself in the predicament where he had to arm a group of virtual enemies of his government in order to prevent its overthrow by another and more immediately threatening hostile group. The Korniloff revolt was put down, but from then on until his flight from Petrograd before the pending Bolshevik uprising, November 7, 1917, Kerenky's star was on the wane.

Francis asserts he advocated the overthrow of the soviets from the start.

"I attended a dinner at King George Palace, one or two days after Christmas, 1918," Francis relates. "King George asked me, 'Mr. Ambassador, what do you think we ought to do about Russia?' I replied I thought the allies should overturn the bolshevik government. The king rejoined by telling me he thought so, too, but President Wilson differed from us."

Later in January, 1919, Francis sought an interview with the president, and was invited to accompany the presidential party to the United States on the George Washington in February. He writes:

"I outlined my recommendation about Russia to him (President Wilson). He replied that sending American soldiers to Russia after the armistice had been signed would be very unpopular in America.

"I ventured to differ with him. I expressed the opinion that many of the 2,000,000 soldiers he had in Europe were disappointed that the armistice was signed before they could engage in a battle. I said, 'You could get 50,000 volunteers out of the 2,000,000 American soldiers, who would be glad to go to Russia to protect a representative of their government in that country.'

"The president replied that he had mentioned my recommendation to Lloyd

Former Ambassador, David R. Francis



David R. Francis, former president of the Board of Curators of the University, former governor of Missouri, and ambassador to Russia during Wilson administration, wrote a book telling of conditions in Russia. Francis Quadrangle was named after him.

George, and that Lloyd George's expression was, if he should order any British soldiers to go to Russia, they would not only object, but would refuse to go. The president further stated that he had mentioned the same subject to Clemenceau, and he had met with the reply that if Clemenceau should order French troops to go to Russia they would mutiny; but the president said he would give further consideration to my recommendation." Francis did not talk with the president again on this subject.

"I think," Francis says in the book, "that if the recommendation had been carried out it would have saved Europe from Bolshevism."

After chapters on "First Impressions" and "German Influence in Russia" the author proceeds in Chapter III ("Treason in High Places") to quote in full the philippic of Prof. Paul Milfredoff, then of the duma, in which he accused Prime Minister Sturmer:

"Sturmer is in negotiation for separate peace.

"Sturmer has betrayed Russia.

"Sturmer is arranging supplies for our brave sons and brothers in the trenches.

"Sturmer is doing it for German money."

THE MARCH REVOLUTION

January and February of 1917 were marked by growing unrest due to the scarcity of food, followed by the famous "March revolution" which resulted in the establishment of a provisional government under Kerenky.

Czar Nicholas was aboard train from Russian staff headquarters back to Tsarskoe-Selo March 14 when a telegram was received, the book states.

The emperor sprang to his feet crying, "What's this? Revolt?" Maj. Gen. Tshabel explained, "Why have you not told me anything about it sooner? Why are you telling me only now after all is over?" demanded the czar. Then, after a moment he added with calm despondency, "Well, thank God, I'll go to Livadia. If the people want me to, I'll abdicate and retire to Livadia to my garden. I love flowers."

Later, it is recorded, after the czar abdicated for himself and the czarevitch in favor of the Grand Duke Nicholas, Kerenky visited the imperial family at Tsarskoe-Selo, and as he was leaving the czarevitch confronted him, asking if he was head of the provisional government.

"Yes," replied Kerenky. "I am."

"I want to know," rejoined the boy, "if my father had any right to abdicate for me when he abdicated for himself."

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recognition by the United States would strengthen the provisional government. "He replied with alacrity that it would and asked if it could be done on the following day."

"I told him 'no' that I did not expect a reply before the 22d or 23d. With much agitation he (Goutchkoff) expressed doubt as to whether the provisional government could survive that time." But the government stood and was formally recognized by Ambassador Francis for the United States on March 22. The allied powers did likewise.

LENIN IN PAY OF GERMANY

Of Lenin and Trotsky, Ambassador Francis, in various paragraphs, has this to say:

"I am inclined to the opinion that Lenin was in the pay of the German government."

"Not long after Lenin reached Russia through Germany, Leon Trotsky arrived from the United States. Neither one would have been allowed to enter Russia under the empire. Both were taking advantage of the democratic hospitality of the new government. The way they used this hospitality is an interesting study. I now feel confident that all the disastrous disintegration of Russian society was largely accomplished by Lenin and Trotsky, liberally provided with German money. They worked, in so far as they could, through that potential but irresponsible branch of the government, the council of workmen's and soldiers' deputies, over which body they finally secured control."

"Lenin and Trotsky had not belonged to the same faction of international Socialists, but they soon saw that they both had the same ulterior object, which was world-wide social revolution, and that this could best be promoted by their joining forces. Lenin was the stronger intellect of the two. Trotsky was the able executive. Lenin led a simple life; Trotsky was fond of display and luxury. Both believed in 'direct action,' that is, they scrupled at no means by which their ends could be accomplished."

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MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Channing Crane, Route No. 8, went to Centralia this morning on business.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Ingerson went to Atchison, Kan., Saturday to visit relatives for two weeks.

The Rev. C. R. Mitchell went to Keytesville Saturday to fill his regular appointment.

Prosecuting Attorney Ruby Hulen returned Saturday from Sedalia where he and Mrs. Hulen attended the State Fair.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Young of Brookfield, who were here on business, returned home Saturday morning.

Carl Hampton of Festus, passed through Columbia today enroute to Mexico where he expects to obtain work.

R. H. Eubanks, 706 Lyons street went to Kansas City this morning on a business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, and baby, 506 South Fifth street went to Trenton today to visit with relatives there until September 1.

Miss Ida E. Graham, of Gallatin, returned to her home today after a short visit with Miss Mary Barnett, 314 1/2 Hitt street.

Miss Elizabeth McGrath of Carrollton, returned to her home today. She has been visiting her brother, W. J. McGrath, 1629 Hinkson avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Fox, who have been visiting with W. L. Dorgan and family, returned to their home in Hannibal today.

Mrs. C. L. Feland and daughter Nadine returned to their home in Higher, after a week-end visit with Mrs. J. G. Goldsberry, 611 North Eighth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Isidor Enoch of St. Louis, former residents of Columbia, are here visiting at the home of J. A. Klass at 214 South Eighth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hetzler of St. Joseph, who have been the guests of Mr. Hetzler's father, W. J. Hetzler, returned home Saturday morning.

D. P. Wyatt of Des Moines who has been visiting his mother and sister at Rochepoint and New Franklin, returned home Saturday.

Miss Flossie Belle McDonnell, 1312 Bass avenue, went to Kansas City Saturday. From there she will go to Ottawa, Kan., for a ten days' visit.

Mrs. J. Metcalf of Columbia and her uncle, Frank Wright, of Aurora, Ind., who is her guest, went to Moberly Saturday. From there they will go to Mexico to spend a couple of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. George D. Thompson, 1705 University avenue, left Saturday for Richmond, Mo., to visit Mr. Thompson's father, Hiram Thompson, who is seriously ill.

C. L. Baldwin, of Rochepoint, left Saturday morning for Spokane, Wash., where he will spend three weeks with his family. His family will return with him.

Mrs. N. S. Kackley, who has been visiting Mrs. Hollis Edwards, 1113 Paris road for the last three months, returned to her home in Hill City, Kan., this morning.

Mrs. Frank Claypool, 1107 Locust street went to Hannibal this morning for a two weeks' visit with relatives there. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Lizzie Vaughn.

W. W. Roberts went to Hallsville this morning to complete arrangements for

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